CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently Amended)   A fuel cell system comprising:

a fuel cell stack, said fuel cell stack receiving a cathode input gas and a hydrogen anode input gas, said fuel cell stack exhausting a cathode exhaust gas on a cathode exhaust gas line and an anode exhaust gas on an anode exhaust gas line;

a purge valve coupled to the anode exhaust gas line for selectively purging the anode exhaust gas;

an accumulator coupled to the anode exhaust gas line, said accumulator accumulating the purged anode exhaust gas from the purge valve; and

a bleed valve for selectively bleeding the anode exhaust gas accumulated in the accumulator, wherein the bled anode exhaust gas from the bleed valve is combined with the cathode exhaust gas in the cathode exhaust gas line, said bleed valve being at least one fixed orifice that allows the anode exhaust gas to be bled from the accumulator in a continuous manner where the rate that the anode exhaust gas is bled from the accumulator is less than the rate that the anode exhaust gas is purged into the accumulator through the purge valve.

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Previously Presented)   The system according to claim 1 wherein the combined anode and cathode exhaust gas is exhausted to the environment.

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Cancelled)

9.   (Cancelled)

10.   (Original)   The system according to claim 1 wherein the purge valve is a spring-biased, solenoid controlled valve.

11.   (Cancelled)

12.   (Cancelled)

13.   (Cancelled)

14.   (Cancelled)

15.   (Cancelled)

16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Cancelled)

19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Cancelled)

21.   (Cancelled)

22.   (Cancelled)

23.   (Cancelled)

24.   (Cancelled)

25.   (Cancelled)

26.   (Cancelled)

27.   (Cancelled)

28.   (Cancelled)

29.   (Cancelled)

30.   (Cancelled)

31.   (New)   The system according to claim 1 wherein the at least one

fixed orifice is a plurality of fixed orifices.